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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION AGR-01

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 AID-07 EUR-12 EB-08 ICA-15 IO-15
NEA-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 PA-02 RP-10 SR-04 SPRS-02
/084 W

-----023600 230401Z /60

R 230212Z FEB 81
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3095
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 02222

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PK, SREF

SUBJECT: FRANCE AND GERMANY PLEDGE WHEAT FOR AFGHAN
REFUGEES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AGR-01 MR

RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

INITIALS

FA 12 10 11

1. ACCORDING TO A REUTERS ARTICLE FROM PARIS PRINTED IN THE FEBRUARY 19 PAKISTAN TIMES, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT DECIDED ON FEBRUARY 18 "TO SEND 12,000 TONS OF WHEAT IMMEDIATELY TO AFGHAN REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN." NEITHER THE FRENCH EMBASSY NOR THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM OFFICE IN ISLAMABAD CAN CONFIRM THIS STORY, BUT BOTH BELIEVE IT TO BE TRUE. THIS AMOUNT COMPARES TO 6,000 TONS WHEAT DONATION BY FRANCE IN 1980 THROUGH WFP. HEAD OF WFP OFFICE ISLAMABAD CLAIMS THAT GERMAN GOVERNMENT RECENTLY PROMISED TO SEND 6,000 TONS OF WHEAT IN APRIL FOR REFUGEES BUT ON BILATERAL BASIS.

2. COMMENT: WFP REPORTS THAT IT DISBURSED ALMOST 23,000 TONS OF WHEAT IN JANUARY TO 1.5 MILLION REFUGEES AND
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TWO NEW PLEDGES REPRESENT ABOUT THREE WEEKS WHEAT RATIONS.

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WFP NOW CALCULATES IT HAS ENOUGH FIRM WHEAT PLEDGES (EXCLUDING RECENT U.S. PLEDGE OF 67,000 MT WHICH WILL NOT BE ANNOUNCED UNTIL RETURN OF AMBASSADOR HUMMEL) TO LAST UNTIL THIRD WEEK IN MARCH. WITH FIRM PLEDGES IN HAND, WFP CAN DRAW FROM GOP WHEAT STOCKS, BUT WFP IS NOT ABLE TO UTILIZE VERY LIMITED GOP SUPPLIES OF VEGETABLE OIL AND DRIED SKIM MILK. WFP SUPPLY OF THESE COMMODITIES WILL ONLY LAST UNTIL END OF MARCH AND LOCAL WFP OFFICIALS HAVE ALERTED WFP ROME OF URGENT NEED TO ARRANGE SHIPMENTS OF VEG OIL AND DSM IMMEDIATELY. KING

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